

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELGRA 04604 01 OF 02 090108Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 ACDA-07 TRSE-00 CU-02 BIB-01 DHA-02 OIC-02
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /076 W
-----116471 090119Z /73

O R 082100Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1421
INFO CSCE CONFERENCE COLLECTIVE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 BELGRADE 4604

FOR EUR/RPM, EUR/SOV

FROM USDEL CSCE

USCINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CSCE
SUBJECT: BELGRADE CSCE MEETING: WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS, JULY 2-8

SUMMARY: "NEW NINE" GROUP OF NEUTRAL/NON-ALIGNED (NNA)
INFORMALLY INTRODUCED COMPREHENSIVE PACKAGE SOLUTION PROPOSAL
JULY 7, WHICH REFLECTS MOST OF WESTERN ALLIES' SUBSTANTIVE
CONCERNS ON AGENDA, ORGANIZATIONAL MODALITIES, AND DURATION
MAIN MEETING, WHILE OFFERING SOVIETS SOME OPTICAL
CONCESSIONS. NNA EFFORT CAME AT STRATEGIC MOMENT AFTER
SOVIETS GAVE PRESS CONFERENCE IN WHICH THEY ACCUSED USDEL--
REPORTS DIFFER AS TO WHETHER THEY CITED US BY NAME--OF
"TORPEDOING" PREPARATORY MEETING, AND U.S. CALLED IN PLENARY
FOR GREATER EFFORT BY ALL DELS TO REACH REASONABLE COMPROMISES.
AT END OF WEEK, MEETING MOVED INTO SERIES OF INFORMAL
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PAGE 02 BELGRA 04604 01 OF 02 090108Z

CONSULTATIONS AT WHICH NNA EXPLAINED THEIR PROPOSAL, WHILE
MANY DELS SOUGHT INSTRUCTIONS. END SUMMARY.

1. SOVIETS AND THEIR ALLIES BEGAN WEEK SHORTENED BY
OBSERVANCE OF YUGOSLAV NATIONAL HOLIDAY JULY 4 WITH
INTERVENTIONS IN PLENARY AND DRAFTING GROUP SIGNALLING
THAT THEY WOULD STICK CLOSELY TO THEIR AGENDA AND ORGAN-

IZATIONAL PROPOSALS DESIGNED TO MINIMIZE REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION AND ROLE OF COMMITTEES AT MAIN MEETING. USDEL INDICATED CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR AGENDA AND ORGANIZATIONAL MODALITIES CONSISTENT WITH OUTLINES OF US/UK PROPOSAL INTRODUCED AT BEGINNING OF PREPARATORY SESSION, AND ALLIES, MINEVUL OF PRESS REPORTS ALLEGING RIFTS IN NATO RANKS, BACKED US SOLIDLY. ALLIES ALSO OFFERED SUGGESTIONS FOR SOLUTION OF SOME MINOR AGENDA ISSUES.

2. SOVIET REP (VORONTSOV) MADE STRONG BUT MODERATELY WORDED PLENARY STATEMENT JULY 6 THAT MEETING HAD TAKEN BACKWARD STEP AND REITERATED SOVIET POSITION THAT AGREEMENT WOULD ONLY BE POSSIBLE IF DELS STUCK LITERALLY TO FINAL ACT. AFTER PLENARY, SOVIETS TOOK FOR THEM UNPRECEDENTED CSCE STEP OF CALLING WESTERN NEWSMEN TOGETHER TO EXPLAIN THEIR POSITION. THERE ARE CONFLICTING REPORTS AS TO PRECISELY WHAT SOVIET PRESS POESMAN SAID. SOVIET DEL MEMBERS ASSURED US THAT HE WAS UNDER INSTRUCTIONS ONLY TO EXPRESS GENERAL DISAPPOINTMENT AT ATTITUDE OF SEVERAL DELS AND NOT TO NAME NAMES. SOVIETS, IN FACT, TOLD US THAT THEIR DISAPPOINTMENT WAS DIRECTED MORE AT FRG AND UK, WHICH HAD MADE NEW SUGGESTIONS IN DRAFTING GROUP PREVIOUS DAY. NUMBER OF NEWSMEN TOLD US, HOWEVER, THAT PRESS SPOKESMAN REFERRED TO AMERICANS THREE TIMES AS THE DELEGATION THAT WAS CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 BELGRA 04604 01 OF 02 090108Z

BLOCKING PROGRESS.

3. SOVIET TACTIC OF SPEAKING SOFTLY TO US AND MORE SHARPLY TO OTHERS HAS BECOME FAMILIAR ONE AT THIS MEETING. WE INTERPRETED VORONTSOV STATEMENT AND PRESS CONFERENCE COMMENTS AS PLOY DESIGNED TO PUT PRESSURE ON US AND BEST POSSIBLE FACE ON SOVIET UNWILLINGNESS TO MAKE FURTHER CONCESSIONS OF THEIR OWN AT WHAT IS STILL FAIRLY EARLY STAGE OF MEETING. WE ELECTED TO TAKE AN ABOVE-THE-BATTLE POSTURE, AND MERELY REMINDED THE PLENARY MEETING JULY 7 THAT, WHILE ALL DELS HAVE THEIR OWN STRONGLY HELD IDEAS ABOUT WHAT PREPARATORY MEETING SHOULD DO, ALL WERE TRYING TO IDENTIFY THE HONEST COMPROMISES WHICH WOULD HAVE TO BE FOUND IN ORDER TO COMPLETE WORK SUCCESSFULLY.

4. LATER ON JULY 7, "NEW NINE" NNA GROUP (AUSTRIA, SWITZERLAND, SWEDEN, FINLAND, MALTA, CYPRUS, LICHTENSTEIN, SAN MARINO, AND YUGOSLAVIA) SURFACED COMPREHENSIVE PAPER ON WHICH THEY HAD BEEN WORKING FOR SEVERAL

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PAGE 01 BELGRA 04604 02 OF 02 082258Z
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INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 BELGRADE 4604

FOR EUR/RPM, EUR/SOV

FROM USDEL CSCE

USCINCEUR FOR POLAD

DAYS. MAIN ELEMENTS OF THIS PAPER INCLUDE:
(A) AGENDA--KEY ITEM ON "THOROUGH EXCHANGE OF VIEWS"
WOULD COME FOURTH IN EIGHT-ITEM AGENDA, BUT IT WOULD BE
FIRST SUBSTANTIVE ITEM TO BE DEALT WITH IN MAIN, CLOSED
PART OF MEETING. LANGUAGE OF THIS ITEM WOULD, AS SOVIETS
HAVE INSISTED, BE TAKEN DIRECTLY FROM RELEVANT PARAGRAPH
OF FINAL ACT WITHOUT ANY DISTINGUISHING SUBDIVISIONS OR
TICKS, BUT U.S. DESIRE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN REVIEW OF
IMPLEMENTATION AND NEW PROPOSALS WOULD BE MET BY TYPO-
GRAPHICAL DEVICE (ALREADY ACCEPTED BY SOVIETS) OF
SKIPPING A LINE BETWEEN THESE TWO ELEMENTS.
ADEQUACY OF AGENDA FOR OUR PURPOSE OF OBTAINING THOR-
OUGH REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION WOULD BE REINFORCED
BY AN ORGANIZATIONAL PROVISION THAT DISCUSSION WOULD BE
ORGANIZED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SEQUENCE OF THE FINAL
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PAGE 02 BELGRA 04604 02 OF 02 082258Z

ACT.

(B) ORGANIZATIONAL MODALITIES--NNA DRAFT PROVIDES
A STRONG COMMITTEE STRUCTURE WHICH WOULD DO BULK OF WORK
IN CLOSED PART OF MAIN MEETING AND WHICH WOULD HAVE
LATITUDE TO CONSIDER SYSTEMICALLY AND IN DETAIL BOTH

IMPLEMENTATION AND NEW PROPOSALS RATHER THAN, AS
SOVIETS WISH, AN ALL-POWERFUL PLENARY WHICH COULD
EASILY SLOW DOWN AND OBSTRUCT WORK. STRUCTURE WOULD
ALSO FOLLOW HELSINKI-GENEVA-HELSINKI THREE-
STAGE PATTERN WITH CLOSED WORKING PORTION SANDWICHED
BETWEEN OPENING AND CLOSING SESSIONS WHERE PARTICIPANTS
WOULD MAKE PUBLIC STATEMENTS.

(C) DURATION--NNA DRAFT CLOSELY FOLLOWS TARGET DATE FORM-
ULATION IN US/UK PROPOSAL. MAIN MEETING WOULD OPEN
SEPTEMBER 27 AND MAKEHIVERY EFFORT TO FINISH BY
DECEMBER 15 (TWELVE WEEKS), BUT IN WORK REMAINED, AND IN
PARTICULAR, IF A CONCLUDING DOCUMENT HAD NOT BEEN AGREED,
MEETING WOULD CONTINUE ON WEEKLY BASIS.

5. NNA SOUGHT TO EXPLAIN THEIR DRAFT AND SOLICIT VIEWS
JULY 7-8 AT SERIES OF INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS.
THEY REPRESENTED PAPER AS A PACKAGE, INTENDED TO DEAL
WITH ALL ASPECTS OF PREPARATORY MEETING'S MANDATE, WHIRP
COULD NOT BE SUBSTANTIALLY MODIFIED WITHOUT UPSETTING
OVERALL BALANCE. WE AND THE ALLIES HAVE NNA PAPER
UNDER CONSIDERATION, BOTH IN BELGRADE AND IN CAPITALS.

6. SOVIETS HAVE NOT YET GIVEN ANY SIGN OF HOW THEY
WILL RESPOND TO NNA INITIATIVE. THEY URGED JULY 8,
HOWEVER, THAT PLENARY RESUME DISCUSSION OF ORGANIZATION-
AL MODALITIES NEXT WEEK, PRESUMABLY SO THAT THEY CAN
RESTATE THEIR ESTABLISHED POSITIONS ON THESE AND ON
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PAGE 03 BELGRA 04604 02 OF 02 082258Z

DURATION (THEY DESIRE FIXED TERMINATION DATE FOR MAIN
MEETING), WHILE THEY SEEK FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM
OSCOW.
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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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